advertisement in Regional/National newspapers, interviews are conducted at Valiamala, which is LPSC Headquarters. However, offers are issued to the selected candidates directing them to report to the respective places where the vacancies exist. In respect of two posts of Engineer-SB, however, the individuals were originally posted to Valiamala complex but were subsequently shifted to Mahendragiri, as they were found more suitable for the Test Facilities located at Mahendragiri. One of these Engineers belong to Tamil Nadu.

(c) 73 persons from Tamil Nadu and 8 persons from Kerala are presently employed in Liquid Propulsion Test Facility at Mahendragiri.

Law to check defection

2001. SHRI PA WAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a.) whether Government are aware that the salutory provisions of law aimed at checking defections by the Legislators are being rendered nugatory in some cases without technical violation thereof; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard and remedy the malady?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ); fay Government have no such information.

(b) Does not arise. Fresh treaty with

Sri Lanka

2002. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL;

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sri Lankan Gov ernment have recently suggested a fresh treaty with regard to the ethnic problem in that country;

(b) if so, what are the details there of stating the reasons behind the suggestion and how does the proposed treaty differ from the earlier accord between the two countries; and

(c,) what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Relief sent to Sri Lanka

2003. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of "EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the total amount of relief so far sent to Jaffna and other parts of Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): 4571.812 metric tonnes.

Repeal of CCS (Recognition ofServiceAssociation) Rules, 1959 by theSupreme Court

2004. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY:
SHRI ASHWANl KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CCS (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1959 had been struck off by the Supreme Court in 1962;

(b) whether any fresh rules have been framed to replace the above rules; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when these rules are likely to be framed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) Actually, these Rules we're framed in exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article 209 and Clause

(5) of Article 148 of the Constitution and also with reference to rule 4(B) of the Central Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1955. In 1962, the Supreme Court had struck down rule 4(B) of the said conduct Rules. It is only on this account that the Recognition Rules, 1959 were treated by the Central Government *suo-moio* as "inoperative".

(b) and (c) Fresh Rules for grant ing Recognition to Service Associa tions of the Central Government em ployees are expected to be finalised soon.

Revision of reserved constituencies

2005. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state.-

(a) whether Government intend to revise the number, extent and area of the existing 'reserved constituencies of Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha;

(b) if so, by when this work is likely to be entrusted to the delimitation commission;

(c) whether Government propose to rotate the reserved constituencies within the State and if so by when it is likely- to be done; and

(d) whether Government have any plans to introduce any legislation in this regard in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R BHARDWAJ): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The proposal for rotation of reserved seats is linked with the proposal for delimitation of Constituencies. The Government propose to discuss these proposals with political parties before arriving at a final decision. The question of legislation will arise only after the discussions are over and a final decision in the matter has been taken.

Child marriages

2006. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that child marriages continue to take place in the country in spite of the provisions of the Child Marriage Restraint Act;

(b) whether Government propose to make these provisions more effective and empower the local police officials with sufficient authority to effectively intervene and stop such child marriages; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No proposal to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 is under consideration. The Act was last amended in 1978 with a view to provide that offences under the- Act. shall be cognizable for the purpose of investigation arid for all matters other than matters referred to in section 42 of the Criminal Procedure Code (arrest on refusal to give name and residence]) and the arrest of a person without a warrant or without an order of the magistrate. Thus, sufficient power and authority exist under the Act to deal with offences under the Act.

श्रीलंका में सैनिक कार्यवाही पर व्यय

2007. श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत–श्रीलंका समझौता कार्यान्वित करने के लिए भारत द्वारा हाल ही में की गई सैनिक कार्रवाई पर सरकार को कितनी धनराशि व्यय करनी पड़ी थी ;